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STOVE PLATES

Throughout the greater part of the eighteenth century iron stoves were made in Eastern Pennsylvania at the various furnaces, particularly throughout the section of Chester, Bucks and Lancaster counties, occupied by the Pennsylvania-German settlers. These stoves were constructed of iron plates decorated



IRON STOVE PLATE Eastern Pennsylvania, Eighteenth Century

with relief designs, principally of a biblical character. Stove plates frequently bore the date of casting and the name of the iron founder and were often embellished with figures of conventionalized tulips, hearts, figure scenes and inscriptions. Among the biblical subjects illustrated were Cain and Abel, Joseph and Potiphar's wife, David and Goliath, Adam and Eve, The Miracle of Cana, The two rectangular plates forming the sides of the stoves usually measured about two feet and were generally more highly decorated than the other parts.

There are in the Museum collection several interesting examples of these stove plates, which have been recently arranged at the

Eastern end of the North Corridor with the other collections of iron work. A stove plate of this character, made by Thomas Rutter, in 1763, is here shown.



HISTORICAL GLASSWARE

One of the most interesting discoveries relating to the history of industrial art in the United States is the fact that pressed glass was made in this country as early as 1827, and the claim has been made that the process of pressing glass



SALT CELLAR OF PRESSED GLASS Made at Sandwich, Mass., about 1827

Lafayette to the United States in 1824. blue and clear glass, and a generation ago was exceedingly popular through the

in molds, by means of machinery, was an American invention. Until quite recently, all examples of old pressed glass found in this country were believed by collectors to have been made in England, but evidence has recently been obtained to show that the majority of these pieces were produced at certain glass factories in the United States between the year above mentioned and 1840. Among these interesting objects is a salt cellar pressed in the shape of a steamboat and evidently designed as a souvenir of the visit of General

This design was made both in dark